



PUT THE WINTER
BLUES BEHIND YOU
IN SUNNY SOUTH
PADRE, TEXAS {page 14}



FORGET SPAGHETTI
YOUR LITTLE ONES
WILL LOVE FAMILY
FAJITA NIGHT {page 17}

DADDY'S GIRL PUTS HER FOOT DOWN DISH {page 13}



HALIFAX

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Wednesday, February 23, 2011
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News worth sharing.

Tories tout integrity portfolio

► New critic post to focus on all government departments, says Baillie ► Allan MacMaster, who succeeded former premier Rodney MacDonald as Inverness MLA, appointed

Allan MacMaster might just be the first integrity critic in Nova Scotia history.

Progressive Conservative Leader Jamie Baillie announced MacMaster's appointment as the party's critic for integrity of government yesterday.

Baillie said the new position is "breaking new ground."

"We'll actually have a critic who is our point person on respect for taxpayers' dollars, looking for examples of waste, or inefficiency, or just plain old abuse," he said.

The appointment comes a week after three former and one current MLA were criminally charged in relation to the MLA expense scandal.

The charges stem from expense claims filed between 2006 and 2009, which were made publicly available in the wake of the scandal.

Premier Darrell Dexter, along with Liberal Leader Stephen MacNeil and Tory House Leader Chris d'Entremont, denied there was a need to release expense claims filed before 2006.

Baillie said he has "no problem" with releasing those records, but suggested the starting point would be Nova Scotia audi-

"(The integrity critic) will cover everything from expenses to fairness to taxpayers."



TORY LEADER
JAMIE BAILLIE

tor general Jacques Lapointe doing a sample audit of expense claims filed before 2006, in order to determine whether a larger audit was necessary.

Baillie said he'd also like to see an expanded mandate for the auditor general.

"I would like the auditor general to go beyond that and do some of the work that the auditor general of Canada is able to do, like special examinations which (are) a more thorough investigation that includes 'are we getting value for money,'" he said.

Baillie acknowledged that would require expanding the resources of the office of the auditor general, which currently employs about 35 people.

"The payback on those extra resources would be tenfold," he said.

● ALEX BOUTILIER

Standout. Fighter



► Nova Scotia's Taylor Gordon celebrates his victory over Newfoundland and Labrador's Jeffrey Cuff at the Halifax Forum last night. Gordon and North Preston's Jason Downey both won their bouts last night and will represent Nova Scotia in the semifinals at the Canada Winter Games tomorrow night. Both boxers are now guaranteed at least a bronze medal. Story, page 22.

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

N.S. boxers guaranteed medals

Gadhafi vows to keep fighting

Embattled leader tells his supporters to strike back {page 6}

**Molson vs.
Labatts**

Which will you be drinking for Saturday night hockey? {page 8}

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Alarming number of calls false

The RCMP in Nova Scotia wants to stop wasting time answering false alarm calls.

In 2009 and 2010, the RCMP say they responded to more than 12,000 alarms in the province, 98.8 per cent of which were false.

"We're looking at trying to make sure we are making effective use of our current resources," RCMP Cpl. Dave Lilly said yesterday.

The RCMP is developing a strategy for single-zone alarm incidents to have a "verified response" from home or business owners before responding to the call.

A verified response means there would be some kind of confirmation there has been an unwanted intrusion.

"Our goal is to reduce the number of alarm calls," Lilly said through a

release issued by the RCMP. "The statistics show a significant amount of time is spent responding to alarms when no crime has been committed."

Until March 15, the RCMP is asking home and business owners to voice their opinions on the strategy being considered.

Halifax Regional Police spokesman Const. Brian Palmeter said its force has had an alarm bylaw

in place for the past few years.

He said under the bylaw a fine may be issued to a home or business owner if the reason for the false alarm does not fit into HRM's policy. Fines range from \$150 to \$250.

"If they are going to tie up the police for false alarms they would pay for that service," Palmer said.

• SHELBY MCDONALD



► A security alarm code being typed in.

1

news



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Allan Small offers his investment primer for RRSP season. More at [metronews.ca/investing](#)

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Study shows system suits high-risk players

► Gamblers who didn't intend to use My-Play system card didn't understand how it works: Report



ALEX BOUTILIER
@METRONEWS.CA

A new study on Nova Scotia's "My-Play" VLT program indicates high-risk and problem gamblers may get more benefits from the program than low- or no-risk gamblers.

Dr. Kelly Chambers, who works with the Nova Scotia Gaming Federation, said Phase 1 of the non-profit organization's study revealed that high-risk and problem gamblers reported the greatest intent to use the "My-Play" system.

"Without having used the card, so far ... a majority of high-risk and problem gamblers indicated that they were more likely to use the card," Chambers said.

The My-Play card monitors VLT users' play, allowing them to set spending

"Whether or not this particular tool might be useful for treatment ... we don't know."

DR. KELLY CHAMBERS

limits; keeps track of time spent playing; and offers a variety of other responsible gambling tools.

Initial survey results from the Nova Scotia Gaming Corporation found the system benefited mostly low- and no-risk gamblers, spokeswoman Robyn McIsaac said.

Chambers said the next phase of NSGF's study, to begin this summer, will determine if those problem gamblers used — and benefited from — the My-Play cards.

If so, Chambers hopes the information will identify the most useful features of the program.



► A man uses a slot machine in this file photo.

Join your community in the fight against cancer.

Every year, friends, family and colleagues across Nova Scotia come together at the Canadian Cancer Society Relay For Life to celebrate cancer survivors, remember lost loved ones and fight back against cancer. We need you to join the fight too!

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Canada. Games



► Fall River's Marc Chasse competes in the men's parallel giant slalom event at the 2011 Canada Winter Games at Ski Martock in Windsor yesterday.

ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Chasse-ing a Canada Games dream

Marc Chasse was one of four Nova Scotians on the slopes for the first day of snowboarding action yesterday. Chasse was knocked out in the elimination round.

Provinces settle on loan pitch

► Prime Minister Stephen Harper wasn't definitive about Ottawa's plans when asked about Lower Churchill hydroelectric project 10 days ago

It appears Newfoundland and Labrador and Nova Scotia have decided their best hope of getting Ottawa's support for the Lower Churchill hydroelectric project is through a loan guarantee rather than direct funding.

Natural Resources Min-

ister Shawn Skinner of Newfoundland and Labrador said yesterday it's believed a loan guarantee would be the best option for the federal government to participate in the \$6.2-billion project.

The major advantage

would be that it wouldn't require Ottawa to provide any funding, he said.

"I think it's an easier one for the federal government to accommodate and therefore that's the one that we've put most of our time and energy into trying to explain to the federal government why it's so important."

Nova Scotia Energy Minister Charlie Parker said both provinces think it is the easiest way to get Ottawa's help.

"It would lower the interest rate and lower the cost," said Parker.

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"We're hoping the federal government will come on board and see the merit of it."

NOVA SCOTIA ENERGY MINISTER CHARLIE PARKER

INVESTIGATION

Two found dead in Sydney apartment

Autopsies will be performed in Halifax on a man and woman found dead in a Sydney apartment yesterday morning.

Cape Breton Regional Police responded to a 911 call placed by a neighbour at an

apartment on Rotary Drive around 10 a.m. where they located a dead 43-year-old man and a 32-year-old woman.

They were believed to be residents of the apartment and were known to each other.

Members of the major crime and forensic identification units responded to the scene and are continuing to process the scene and conduct interviews to determine the events leading up to their deaths.

CAPE BRETON POST

68 drunk driving charges in HRM

Halifax police charged 68 people with impaired driving last month, the majority of which were men.

Of the charges laid for impaired driving in January — by either Halifax Regional Police or Halifax RCMP — 53 were men and 15 were women. Those charged ranged in age between 18 to 59, with 14 identified through accidents and 26 by concerned citizens who called 911.

Police also issued 16 seven-day suspensions and one 15-day suspension for

64 the number of drivers police say were allegedly impaired by alcohol last month amongst those they charged.

people having a blood alcohol level between 50 to 80 milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood.

Halifax Regional Police spokesman Const. Brian Palmer said the overall figures are "fairly consistent" with those in the past.

● PHILIP CROUCHER

Cape Breton seal hunt to commence

A sealer says the grey seal hunt off eastern Cape Breton should get underway tomorrow.

Robert Courtney of the North of Smokey Fishermen's Association says 20 licensed sealers intended to give federal fisheries officials their 24-hour notice yesterday.

The Hay Island hunt officially opened last Thursday, but Courtney says sealers have been delayed by bad weather and additional training needs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nature Trust wins zoning dispute

Nova Scotia Nature Trust has won a zoning dispute with HRM.

The Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board ruled yesterday the Nature Trust could sell three lots of land on Moody Lake in Williamswood.

The UARB ruled in its decision the HRM's planning strategy doesn't make this protected land, which it was zoned at and couldn't be sold.

● METRO

Officer assaulted on the job, police say

It was a tough day on the job for two Halifax police officers early yesterday.

Halifax Regional Police say one officer was kicked in the face by a youth he was trying to arrest in relation to a vehicle theft complaint in Dartmouth.

Police spokesman Con-

ter he fled.

He was assisted by another officer who wound up falling due to the slippery conditions and fractured his arm.

The officer was taken to hospital and requires surgery.

● METRO

Charges

A 15-year-old Dartmouth male is charged with assaulting a police officer, resisting arrest, theft and possession of stolen property.



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Quake rescue goes on

► More than a hundred people thought to be trapped in Christchurch, N.Z., rubble ► Some communicating by cellphone

Details

- Tour guides at the Tasman Glacier in the Southern Alps say the quake shook some 30 million tons of ice off the glacier, forming icebergs in the lake. The falling ice created waves up to 3.5-metres high, which swept up and down the lake for 30 minutes.
- Christchurch's airport was closed for a time, and reopened for emergency flights. Officials said domestic flights would resume today.
- A more powerful 7.1 magnitude earthquake hit Christchurch, a city of 350,000, on Sept. 4, but caused no deaths. The U.S. Geological Survey said this quake was an aftershock from September's tremor.
- New Zealand's worst earthquake struck in 1931 at Hawke's Bay on the country's North Island, which killed at least 256 people.

Some screamed from inside collapsed buildings. One woman used her mobile phone to call her children to say goodbye. Others tapped on the rubble to communicate with those on the outside.

Search teams using dogs, heavy cranes and earth movers worked through dawn in one of New Zealand's largest cities, trying frantically to find survivors amid the crumbled concrete, twisted metal and huge mounds of brick left by a

powerful earthquake.

But they fear that the death toll — officially at least 75 as of press time — could quickly rise, ranking the disaster among the island nation's worst earthquakes in 80 years. Officials say at least 100 more people are missing.

"There are bodies littering the streets, they are trapped in cars, crushed under rubble and where they are clearly deceased our focus ... has turned to the living," Supt. Russell Gibson said.

"We are getting texts and tapping sounds from some of these buildings and that's where our focus is."

Thousands of people in the city moved into temporary shelters at schools and community halls. Others, including tourists who had abandoned their hotels, huddled in hastily pitched tents and under plastic sheeting as drizzling rain fell, while the Red Cross tried to find them accommodations.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Harper offers aid to N.Z.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper offered Canada's help to New Zealand yesterday after a devastating earthquake killed dozens of people.

Harper said all Canadi-

ans extend their condolences to those affected, and added that he has a personal connection to the country. His wife, Laureen, lived in Christchurch as a young girl and his family still has friends there that they are trying to contact, Harper said, adding he is making official contact with New Zealand's prime minister.

to offer assistance. Friends and relatives seeking information on Canadian citizens believed to be in the affected areas have been urged to contact the Foreign Affairs Department. The department said yesterday it had no reports of any Canadians affected by the 6.3-magnitude quake.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



► Rescue workers at the collapsed Pyne Gould Guinness Building in central Christchurch, N.Z., yesterday.

Gadhafi vows to continue fighting

A defiant Moammar Gadhafi vowed to fight to his "last drop of blood" and roared at supporters to strike back against Libyan protesters to defend his embattled regime yesterday, signalling an escalation of the crackdown that has thrown the capital into scenes of mayhem, wild shooting and bodies in the streets.

The speech by the Libyan leader — who shouted and pounded his fists on the podium — was an all-out call for his backers to impose control over

the capital and take back other cities.

"You men and women who love Gadhafi ... get out of your homes and fill the streets," he said. "Leave your homes and attack them in their lairs."

Celebratory gunfire by Gadhafi supporters rang out in the capital of Tripoli after the leader's speech, while in protester-held Benghazi, Libya's second-largest city, people threw shoes at a screen showing his address, venting their contempt.

State TV showed a



► Moammar Gadhafi on Libyan state television

crowd of Gadhafi supporters in Tripoli's Green

Square, raising his portrait and waving flags as they

swayed to music after the address. Residents contacted by The Associated Press said no anti-government protesters ventured out of their homes after dark, and gun-toting guards manned checkpoints with occasional bursts of gunfire heard throughout the city.

International alarm rose over the crisis, which sent oil prices soaring to the highest level in more than two years yesterday and sparked a scramble by European and other countries to get their citizens out of the North African nation.

The UN Security Council held an emergency meeting that ended with a statement condemning the crackdown, expressing "grave concern" and calling for an "immediate end to the violence" and steps to address the legitimate demands of the Libyan people.

Libya's own deputy ambassador at the UN, who now calls for Gadhafi's ouster, has urged the world body to enforce a no-fly zone over the country to protect protesters.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Somali pirates kill four Americans

An adventurous quartet of yacht enthusiasts from California and Washington were living their dreams, friends say, retiring and sailing around the world, until they were shot and killed by Somali pirates yesterday.

The yacht's owners, Jean and Scott Adam of Marina del Rey, near Los Angeles, along with Bob Riggle and Phyllis Macay of Seattle, were taken hostage on Friday several

hundred kilometres south of Oman.

Their deaths mark the first time U.S. citizens have been killed in a wave of pirate attacks plaguing the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean for years.

U.S. naval forces, who were trailing the Americans' captured yacht with four warships, quickly boarded the vessel after hearing gunfire. They tried to provide lifesaving care to the Americans, but they



► Phyllis Macay and Bob Riggle

died of their wounds, U.S. Central Command in Tampa, Fla., said in a statement.

Priest, nun to remain married

In a rare move that needed the Pope's approval, a Lutheran convert was ordained yesterday as a Catholic priest in Germany and is being allowed to remain married to his wife — who has already become a nun.

Harm Klueting, 61, was ordained by Archbishop Joachim Cardinal Meisner in a private ceremony at the city's seminary, the Cologne archdiocese said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Linked to Berlusconi, Ruby moves on

A camera-happy Austrian says he's booked a young woman linked to the sex scandal engulfing Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi as his companion for the Vienna Opera Ball next week.

Richard Lugner is a 78-year-old construction mogul who is a regular on reality TV and known for his young girlfriends and quirky ways. Every year, he takes a different celebrity to the flashy bash amid much media attention.

Lugner said yesterday he's received a completed contract from Karima el-Mahroug, an 18-year-old nicknamed Ruby, who is at the heart of the Italian scandal.

She replaces actress Bo Derek and two other unnamed celebrities who fell through in recent weeks.

Lugner's past dates include Paris Hilton and Nicollette Sheridan.

This year's Opera Ball is on March 3.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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KELLY OSBOURNE

GASOLINE RALLY

No price shocks expected at pumps

Canadian gasoline prices will stay high but stable amid political unrest in the oil-rich Middle East, analysts say.

The national average for a litre of regular gas in Canada yesterday was \$1.13, price-monitoring website Gasbuddy.com reports. That's up about 14 per cent from the same time last year but little changed from a month ago, when political tension heightened in the Arab world.

Gas prices here have stayed relatively stable even as oil prices have soared to \$94.80 US per barrel yesterday.

The North American supply of crude oil is high right now, keeping prices lower than in other parts of the world, said Chris Feltin, oil and gas equities analyst of Macquarie Research in Calgary.

"Canada is not reliant on international producers to supply us with gasoline. The gas that we consume here in Canada is from crude that we produce within our own borders," Feltin said.

"Oil inventories remain healthy and we shouldn't expect to see a major price shock in the near term," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian iVillage to launch

Online media site iVillage and Rogers Media will partner to launch a Canadian version of the popular women's website.

Rogers will operate iVillage.ca, which allows women to connect and read about parenting, health, food and entertainment. The Toronto media company said the site will offer content from iVillage.com, iVillage.co.uk and from Rogers' media properties.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wal-Mart losing U.S. customers

The world's largest retailer failed to reverse an almost two-year slide in a key revenue measure in its fourth quarter, it said yesterday, after promising in November it would do just that.

Wal-Mart's 1.8 per cent decline in revenue at its U.S. stores open for at least a year, its seventh straight quarterly drop, was worse than feared.

The discounter has been losing shoppers to dollar stores, grocers and Target Inc. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Legal fight brewing over sponsorship deal

► Molson won the first period in the NHL sponsorship game, but rival Labatt is vowing to drop the mitts.

► **Molson takes Labatt to the boards as 'official beer' of the NHL**

Molson Canadian is set to become the official beer of the NHL — but not if Labatt has anything to say about it.

In a deal announced yesterday, Molson has signed on for what is believed to be the most lucrative sponsorship in league history. Terms of the seven-year deal weren't disclosed, but a source said it came in at slightly more than \$375 million US.

The agreement with brewers Molson Coors in Canada and MillerCoors in the U.S. will see the sister companies heavily represented across the NHL calendar starting next season.

"Molson Canadian is really synonymous with hockey ... so this is a really nice fit with what the brand is all about," said Dave Perkins, president and CEO of Molson Coors Canada.

"It's a monster deal. (Molson is) going to have major positions across all of our events."

JOHN COLLINS,
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, NHL

But Labatt Breweries of Canada, the official beer sponsor of the NHL for more than a decade, said it may consider legal action, insisting Labatt and the NHL had agreed on the terms to renew its sponsorship deal until 2014.

"We have an agreement with the league and are pursuing all legal remedies to enforce this agreement," said Charlie Angelacos, Labatt's vice-president of corporate affairs. "We will pursue this aggressively."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

December retail sales fall flat

Canadian shoppers ended 2010 on a miserly note, adding some uncertainty about the strength of the economic recovery.

Retail sales edged down 0.2 per cent to \$37.3 billion in December, while sales volumes fell 0.4 per cent.

But some analysts weren't ready to scale back their recent revisions on Canadian GDP estimates. The consensus calls for fourth-quarter growth to come in at three per cent, and an even stronger start to 2011.

There were extenuating circumstances, the economists said, including the cold weather and the fact that many Canadians did their Christmas shopping in November, taking advantage of deep discounts.

The big negative in December retail data was, as expected, new auto sales, which fell 2.7 per cent, ending seven straight monthly gains. Scotiabank economist Derek Holt noted that, along with retail sales, real manufacturing shipments, housing starts and hours

worked all turned negative during the last month of 2010.

But economist Emanuel Enenajor with CIBC noted that Statistics Canada has already reported that auto sales were on the mend in January, rising three per cent.

Other signs point to improving prospects for the economy, particularly the strong rebound already underway in the U.S., which should lift exports in Canada.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

"Keep in mind that a lot of Canadian retailers tried to match their U.S. counterparts with so-called Black Friday discounts, and that may have pulled some sales forward (into November instead of December)."

Douglas Porter,
BMO CAPITAL MARKETS

Market moment

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FAMILY HAS BECOME A ROYAL BORE

Just sayin'

PAUL SULLIVAN



Is it just me or is this Kate Middleton/Prince William/Colin Firth edition of the British Royal Family really boring?

Whatever happened to the scandal-ridden good old days of Sarah Ferguson, the "Duchess of Pork," Prince Andrew, Prince Charles and Camilla Parker-Bowles, oh my, not to mention Dodi Fayed and the tragic Princess Di?

That stuff was a thrill a minute. Remember when Charles was caught imagining himself as a tampon in Camilla's "trousers?" A sublime combination of titillating and disgusting — those were the days.

Now, all of a sudden, Britain's foremost dysfunctional family is getting a radical makeover. William and Kate are perfect, well-behaved and beautiful. Neither has been caught getting his or her toes sucked, having an affair with a dashing cavalry major, or offering "access" to Prince Andrew for the equivalent of \$720,000.

And adding insult to injury, the latest English stuffed-costume drama, *The King's Speech*, turns George VI's speech impediment into an adventure worthy of the quest for the Holy Grail, starring Firth. It manages to redeem the entire Royal Family by elevating the good son, Albert, over the bad son, Edward. And, of course, Albert — George VI — was Queen Elizabeth's father. Good breeding and all that.

For years, good Queen Bess

used to stomp around this or that royal pile with the corgis, grumbling about her wayward children. But now, in her dotage, the next generation has come off the bench and saved the day. Hooray for England!

Bah.

Still, we who thirst for royal scandals can "keep our peckers up," as my English grandmother used to say to a chorus of stifled guffaws. Prince Charles and his *Camilla horribilis* refuse to go away. He still wants awfully to be king even though the entire known universe prefers Wills and Kates.

And then there's Harry, William's kid brother, and a real scandal looking for a place to erupt. Even though he's still younger than 30, he has managed to offend ... everyone. Referring to a Pakistani commander as a

"raghead," smoking marijuana and getting into a fight with a photographer outside a nightclub — all good. But he displayed world-class bad taste when he turned up at a party in Nazi brownshirt regalia, evoking memories of his great grand uncle Edward's fondness for Hitler and his legendary capacity for making the trains run on time.

For now, though, someone has got Harry, Fergie, Andy, Charles and Camilla, etc., on a short leash, and Kate and Wills and honorary Windsor Colin are having their moment in the spotlight.

As they used to say in the tea commercials: Pity.



Read more of
Paul Sullivan's columns at
metronews.ca/justsaying

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER



Sunscreen won't block this

Worth mentioning

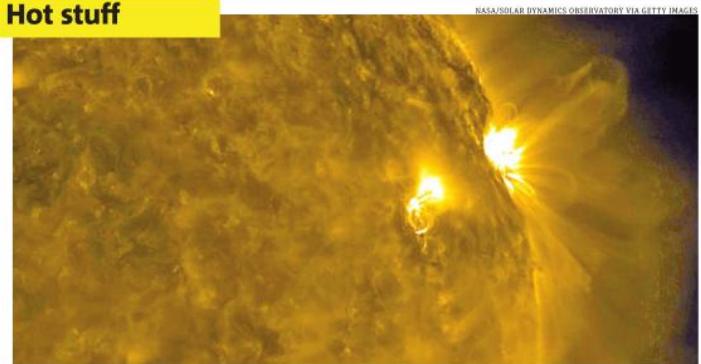
Leading scientists are warning that a massive solar storm could trigger a \$2-trillion "global Katrina" that short-circuits power grids worldwide.

"Power grids, air traffic control systems and intelligent transport systems need to be looked at," Stephan Lechner, director of the European Commission Institute for Protection and Security of the Citizen, told a weekend meeting.

"This is not a matter of if, it is simply a matter of when and how big," said Jane Lubchenco, head of the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

"There will be space

Hot stuff



weather storms that are more frequent and more powerful," NOAA space scientist Joseph Kunches told the Toronto Star yesterday. "We're entering a new solar season."

Just what will be hit and how is part of what scientists are debating.

Powerful solar flares ignite a geomagnetic storm that can shoot direct cur-

rents into the power grid, Kunches explained. The domino effect could cripple transformers and special equipment that could take months or years to replace, he said.

Power grids operate with expensive "not off-the-shelf" machinery. Hence, the \$2-trillion price tag.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Which cartoon character do you most resemble?

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Metro Minute with Old Man Luedcke



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One of Canada's top folk musicians is taking to the stage tonight at Celebration Square. Juno Award-winning singer-songwriter Old Man Luedcke, who is from Chester, is headlining tonight's show at Halifax's Grand Parade.

The outdoor concert series is running throughout the Canada Winter Games, with each show starting at 7 p.m. The Stanfields will open for Luedcke, who is also an East Coast Music Award winner. Buck 65, Radio Radio and City And Colour are also headlining shows this week.

Dance Zone and Conseil communautaire du Grand-Havre are performing at Celebration Square today as part of the noontime series. ☀ METRO



► Old Man Luedcke will play at Celebration Square tonight.

Oscar-themed munchies and mixes make a party

► Metro's entertainment staff cooks up some apps and aperitifs for hours of speeches from the kings and queens of the acting world ► Punch up an award-winning night with a themed event



Stolen Gossip



A Spanish photo agency says coveted shots of Shakira holding hands with Barcelona football player Gerard Pique that are circulating on the Internet had been stolen by a computer hacker. The agency Gtres-Online and other agencies had been planning to sell these photos to Spanish and other publications as exclusives.

MORE MIX 'N MUNCHIES

INCEPTION

► Have your guests arrive dressed like Sigmund Freud and spend the commercial breaks analyzing each other's dreams.



WINTER'S BONE

► Bud and Bud Lite are both from Missouri, where this Ozark-tale is set.

BLACK SWAN

► Pretend its opening night and splash open a bottle of celebratory champagne while a Tchaikovsky score plays quietly in the background to set the mood.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



No matter how celebrated the star, their first Oscar trip is unforgettable



PARTY THEME

Want to score a TKO? Transform your Oscar party into a boxing ring — complete with robes and gloves. A punching bag may help the frustration if your film doesn't win.



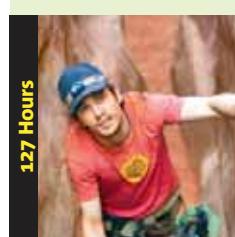
Drape your castle in some Union Jack-themed bunting. Give each of your guests a microphone so they can make their own acceptance speeches.



This film may be a Western, but there's no need to keep things traditional. Forego the hay bales, but provide your guests with cowboy hats and fake sheriffs' badges.



Have your guests show up with their favourite toy or stuffed animal. Place toy soldiers strategically around the room to add a bit of whimsy.



Drop by your local Mountain Equipment Co-op and pick up some climbing ropes you can hang from your ceiling.

THE MUNCHIES

The film is set in Boston, so some piping hot clam chowder is the perfect fit. For dessert — a Boston Cream Pie. If your guests are still puckish, try some Knuckle Sandwiches.

At one point in the film, the future king was forced to place marbles in his mouth. We have a tastier option: crumpets, scones and cucumber sandwiches — without the crusts.

We recommend bison burgers to keep your guests well fed. Trail mix will satisfy their hunger as the awards show broadcast drags on longer than expected.

Serve peanut butter and jelly sandwiches with a side of animal crackers or Gummi Bears.

Power bars will keep your guests' energy levels up as the lengthy broadcast plays out.

THE MIX

Beer is the drink of choice. Try serving up some cold Samuel Adams — named after one of the Founding Fathers of the United States.

For the teetotalers, we suggest a good brew, like Earl Grey. For those who want something a little stronger, try a gin and tonic or a good whiskey.

Spoiler alert! Serve up Snakebites made from equal parts of lager and cider with a dash of blackcurrent cordial.

Jell-o shots are a great way to bring out the kid in any adult. Alternatively, serve glasses of cold milk — well, a White Russian — or juice boxes spiked with vodka.

Give everyone a water bottle filled with their favourite spirits. They can also sip on Orange Gatorade — that James Franco craves in the film.

THE KID'S ARE ALRIGHT

► Serve Californian red wine and a meal made with organic ingredients grown locally as an homage to actor Mark Ruffalo's character in the film, who owns an organic food restaurant.

THE SOCIAL NETWORK

► Who cares about the awards, invite your friends over and Facebook all night.



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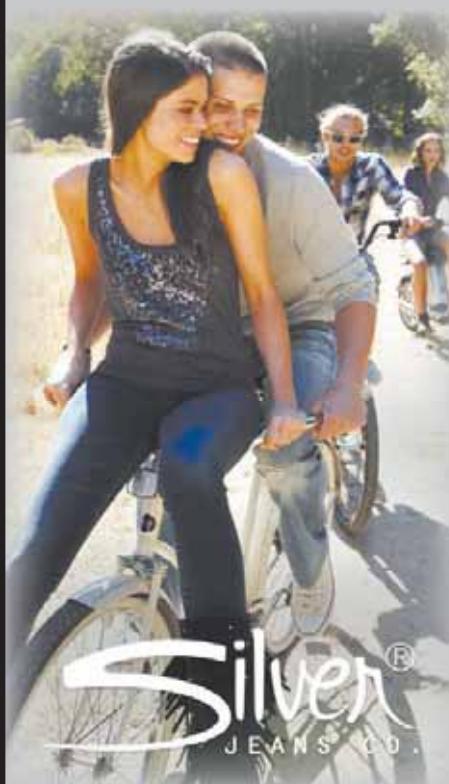
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Cyrus furious over father's comments

► Miley said to be finished defending her dad's criticism

Miley Cyrus is putting a leash on her dad, Billy Ray Cyrus, as his media blitz escalates.

"When Miley found out her father was scheduled to appear on The View on Wednesday she went nuts," a source tells People.

"Only last week, Billy shot his mouth off in GQ, and now he planned to sit down with (Barbara and Whoopi) and talk more crap about his family. No way would Miley or her team let that happen."

Billy Ray has used previous interviews to compare his daughter to Anna Nicole Smith and blame Disney and Hannah Montana for destroying his family.

"At first Miley defended her dad, wanting to believe he had been tricked into saying bad things by the magazine," another source says.

"But after she found out about his media trip to New York, no more excuses could be made."

© METRO



► Miley Cyrus is said to be furious over her father's latest comments.



Sheen hiding his new lady?

Charlie Sheen was spotted back at work for the first time earlier this week, though he was only on the Two and a Half Men set for four hours before returning home, according to X17 Online.

Sheen was accompanied by a new blonde girlfriend, but he's working to keep her identity a secret.

When asked by photographers for her name, he politely responded, "None of your f---ing business."

© METRO

Lainey's Oscar file



BEST ACTRESS: NATALIE PORTMAN

Winter's Bone

Portman is one of the few celebrities who can boast of a very low Erdos-Bacon score which calculates the "collaborate distance" of a person in relation to Hungarian mathematician Paul Erdos and actor Kevin Bacon. She starred with Bacon in New York, I Love You, and co-authored a psychology paper while at Harvard.

THE 83RD ANNUAL ACADEMY AWARDS AIR LIVE SUNDAY AT 8:30 P.M. ET ON CTV. CANADA'S OFFICIAL RED CARPET SPECIAL ETALK AT THE OSCARS AIRS ON CTV (6:30 P.M. ET), /A (6:30 P.M. ET) AND E! (8 P.M. ET). VISIT CTV.CA FOR LOCAL BROADCAST DETAILS. CTV COVERS THE OSCARS FROM EVERY ANGLE, BRINGING VIEWERS MORE THAN 15 HOURS OF OSCARS ACTION ACROSS CTV, E! AND /A.

Celebrity tweets



Russell Brand [\[@rusty-rockets\]](#) I notice The Simpsons pierced my nipples, this was never discussed- is this a human rights issue? (I'm a human)



James Franco [\[@james-franco\]](#) Hi everybody, here I am on Twitter! This is my FIRST tweet...



Steve Martin [\[@Steve-MartinTo-Go\]](#) Through Oscar High Holy Week, I will be tweeting the traditions of our religion. © METRO



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3 life

Travel in brief



Newfoundland and Labrador says more than 518,000 people visited the province last year. The government says it's the first time more than 500,000 people have visited the province and it pegs the value of the visits at \$400 million. It says since 2003, the province has more than doubled its annual spending on tourism marketing, from \$6 million to \$13 million.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



China's terracotta soldiers occupy Montreal fine arts museum in final show

► Best known as a top spot for spring break, South Padre Island has plenty of options to keep visitors active ► Great beaches go along with some of the best water sports around

SUMMER MOORE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Texas' tropical hidden gem: South Padre

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU



► Windsurfing off the coast of South Padre Island.

South Padre Island is famous as a spring break destination, with concerts, bikini contests and plenty of partying by the college kids who flock here by the tens of thousands throughout March. But South Padre isn't just beaches, bars and dance parties. It's also home to a major water-sports scene, with year-round surfing, kiteboarding, windsurfing and other activities.

South Padre sits on the south end of the 55-kilometre-long Padre Island, which is the longest barrier island in the world. On the ocean side of the narrow strip the island is bordered by the Gulf of Mexico, while three blocks to the west, the bay side sits on Laguna Madre Bay. South Padre Island has a small year-round population, about 5,000, but spring break and summer vacations bring a million tourists a year. March is the busiest month after the summer months, with massive events like the Coca Cola Spring Break party at the Isla Grand Beach Resort

attracting crowds of 12,000 to 18,000 college students daily for much of March.

But even spring-breakers will find plenty to do here aside from partying and lying on the beach: deep-sea fishing, parasailing, golfing, horseback riding, banana boat rides. For nature-lovers, there are more than 300 species of birds, a turtle rescue centre that offers tours and boat rides to see dolphins.

A steady airstream in spring and fall make Laguna Madre Bay a popular

place for activities that rely on wind, like kiteboarding and windsurfing. Except for a narrow shipping channel, the water is just one to 1.2 metres deep from the island most of the way across to Port Isabel on the mainland several kilometres away. The shallow, calm water on the bay side makes it easy for water-sport beginners to right themselves. Waves provide more of a challenge on the Gulf side for surfers and boarders with more experience. In March, water tem-

peratures range from 16 to 20 C, with air temperatures from 21 to 30 C. Full wetsuits aren't usually needed, though some spring breakers may pair a wetsuit shirt with bikini bottoms or shorts.

Dave Nowak, co-owner of Island Native and an avid surfer, has been in South Padre since 1980. He says he's lived in many other places, including California, but prefers the friendly, laid-back surf community here.

The surf is plenty intimidating, but surfers in the water, ranging in age from 14 to 60, laugh and joke around, while shouting free pointers to newcomers.

If surfing isn't your thing try kiteboarding. It's a mash-up of windsurfing, snowboarding and hang-gliding, with your feet strapped to a board, and your torso harnessed to a giant kite as you hang onto a trapeze-like bar attached to the kite. For safety reasons, the beach is split between kiteboarders and windsurfers. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

If You Go...

► **Getting There:** There are two airports nearby: Valley International Airport in Harlingen, about 70 kilometres away, and Brownsville-South Padre Island International Airport, 42 kilometres away. Most flights routed through Dallas, San Antonio or Houston.

► **Accommodation:** The island offers a variety of lodging, from hotels in every price range, to beachfront condo rentals with kitchens, perfect to share with friends or family.

► **Windsurf:** Windsurf gear and lessons; windsurftheboatyard.com/ or 956-561-4189. Rentals, \$45 a half-day, \$60 full day, lessons \$40 an hour. Make reservations and you'll be met at Windsurfing Park north of town.

► **Dolphins.** The Original Dolphin Watch boat ride. theoriginaldolphinwatch.com, \$16 for adults, \$13 for children.



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Exploring Fort Lauderdale

Think the Greater Fort Lauderdale area is just for sunning seniors and spring breakers? No way. Whether you're there post- or pre-cruise, or on an extended visit, there is lots to do in the land of yachts, beaches and year-round tans.

WHERE TO STAY

To capture the elegance of 1960s Florida, stay in one of the 204 rooms or suites at Lago Mar Resort and Club, a AAA Four Diamond hotel with 500 feet of private beach on the Atlantic Ocean and a saltwater aquarium to greet guests at the door. The onsite spa makes its own line of beauty products, while the resort grounds include a couple of pools and tennis courts. lagomar.com

WHAT TO DO

Retrace the footsteps of the Rat Pack at The Village at Gulfstream Park, an outdoor shopping village and entertainment complex in Hallandale. The complex includes a number fashion boutiques — like Claudio Milano, Lilly McKay and Martier — along with a wide selection of restaurants and bars. There is also a casino and racetrack that

On the web

For more on Greater Fort Lauderdale, visit sunny.org

was frequented by Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr. thevillageatgulfstream-park.com

WHERE TO PLAY

Get a better look at Greater Fort Lauderdale's natural beauty with a sea-level tour of the mangrove swamps. The Blue Moon Kayak Co. offers eco-tours of John U. Lloyd State Park — home to sting rays and the Florida manatee. Paddle through the water of Whiskey Creek in Dania Beach while learning about the sea marshes. bluemoonmiami.com

WHERE TO EAT

Todd English's Da Campo Osteria in the Il Lugano Suite Hotel features homemade pastas and fresh mozzarella that is warmed for you table-side (dacampoosteria.com). With food prepared on a wood-burning grill, YOLO, located on trendy Las Olas Boulevard, has a garden patio perfect for year-round people watching. yolorestaurant.com

● METRO

Flickr: Maggiejumps

Travelling alone can be hard, but it gets easier

JOURNEY WOMAN

EVELYN HANNON
JOURNEYWOMAN.COM

I've been travelling solo for 23 years and I absolutely love it. But it wasn't always like this.

I remember my first solo journey to Europe. It was just after my divorce and I couldn't stop crying. No, it wasn't simply because my heart was broken. I know now that my sadness was

all about being totally alone, without a support system.

Since that time I've worked on learning the art of solo travel. Though I still feel alone when I travel, I know that's natural because I am alone. Now I enrol in classes along the way, seek out restaurants with communal tables or use my solitude to relax and just be me.

The difference between that first solo journey and now is that I have acquired the experience and the

Shorty Awards

► Finalist. Evelyn Hannon, @Journeywoman, was recently named a finalist for the Shorty Awards, (billed as Oscars of Twitter) in the category of travel. shortyawards.com

skills that help me to deal with the 'aloneness' and to reach out for company when I need it.

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Adventurous Victoria

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THE TRAVELLIN' CANADIAN

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British Columbia's capital city, Victoria, is known for its regal charm and low key lifestyle, but there's a world of high-sea adventure waiting just offshore.

You can literally find yourself among orca pods, porpoises and grey whales in the morning, and still be back in time for the famous afternoon "high tea" ceremony at the historic Empress Hotel downtown.

During my three-hour

whale watching tour off Vancouver Island, I was taken aback by the sheer number of mammals just hanging out. Not long into our bumpy journey we spotted a large rock jammed with noisy fat elephant seals. Beyond that, a pod of black and white killer whales dived in and out of the freezing waters of Juan De Fuca Strait, while overhead, three bald eagles soared. Pretty majestic stuff. In the distance we even spotted a giant grey whale, or at least what we thought was the tail of a giant grey whale.

Back on dry land there was still time to visit Victoria's most famous tourist attraction: the very colourful, and very huge Butchart Gardens. You pretty much have to block out the better part of a day to navigate your



► In just a short boat ride from Victoria you can catch a glimpse of killer whales.

way through the 55 acres of rare and exotic plants and trees. People come from all over to experience what is considered the world's premier show gardens, and it isn't a free ride. It costs \$27 for a chance to wonder among the flora

and fauna. Still, if you're into gardens, you'd be hard pressed to find anything this impressive. I'm more a whale watching kinda guy. Seacoast Expeditions offers whale watching tours for \$95 for adults, and \$59 for kids.

Victoria sights

Other cool things to do in Victoria:

► Visit the Victoria Bug Zoo
Where else can you get up close and personal with

multi-legged creatures from all over the world?

► Check out Victoria's Butterfly Gardens A 12,000 square foot enclosure houses 3,000 exotic butterflies, along with tropical ducks, Flamingos and Koi fish.



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ROSE REISMAN

FOOD@METRONEWS.CA

Spring is fast approaching, which means it's time to get ready for March Break!

It also means that it's time to dig up some great family recipes.

Tex mex food is an all-time kids' favorite.

These fajitas are creamy and rich tasting, but don't contain the fat of regular fajitas. My version has plenty of vegetables, along with some light cheese and sour cream.

They're also very easy to make, and the kids can help every step of the way.

Ingredients:

- 8 oz skinless boneless chicken breasts (about 2 breasts)
- 2 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 1/2 cups sliced onion

Preparation:

- 1** Preheat oven to 425°F. Line a baking sheet with foil and lightly coat with cooking spray.
- 2** Lightly coat a nonstick skillet with cooking spray and place over medium-high heat. Cook chicken for about 8 minutes or until cooked and no longer pink. Let rest for 10 minutes; slice thinly. Wipe out pan.
- 3** Add oil to pan and brown onion and garlic, about 4 minutes. Reduce heat to medium. Stir in
- 4** red pepper strips and cook until softened, about 5 minutes. Remove pan from heat. Stir in parsley or cilantro, green onions and cooked chicken.
- 5** Divide the mixture among the tortillas. Top with the cheese, salsa and sour cream. Roll up.
- 6** Place on the prepared baking sheet. Bake in the centre of the oven for 5 minutes or until the fajitas are heated through and the cheese has melted. Cut in half and serve immediately.

- 1 1/2 tsp finely chopped garlic
- 1 1/2 cups red bell pepper, cut into strips
- 1/4 cup chopped parsley or cilantro
- 3 tbsp chopped green onions
- 6 small (6-inch) flour tortillas
- 1/2 cup shredded light cheddar cheese
- 1/3 cup medium salsa
- 1/4 cup low-fat sour cream

Yields 6
Prep time:
 20 min.
Cooking:
 20 min.



► You can prep the filling for these Chicken Fajitas a day in advance and store it in the fridge.

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Canada

Resumé wrong-turns

► Skip the PDFs and the Word documents, and always remember to prioritize projects over poetry

 DREW HINSHAW
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

The look, feel and font of the day's standard résumé has changed as frequently as the screens we peruse them on, and yet "people are still making the same résumé mistakes they've always been making," laments Blue Skies Résumé President Louise Fletcher.

"The number one problem people have," she ex-

plains, "is what they think their résumé is. They approach it as a place to list every company they've worked at, when actually they should think of it as an advertisement or a promotional piece."

"Not being concise enough is a huge problem," concurs certified résumé writer Laura Smith-Proulx.

And not just because

you could over-share your way out of an interview.

"If you have every job you've had on there since 1979," she warns, "you're opening yourself up to age bias."

In the new millennium of buzzing smart phones and insta-résumé scanners, there's only one form of discrimination worse than age bias — pdf bias.

"Never send a Word or

pdf copy unless it's specifically requested," cautions Margaret Riley Dikel, author of the Guide to Internet Job Searching.

Assume, she counters, that the bigwig making the company hires is breezing through the company inbox on a BlackBerry.

"Take your Word doc and convert it into the body of your e-mail," she advises.

a stint as a professional cliché writer, don't bother thesaurus-digging for synonyms for "self-motivated," or "forward-thinking."

When it comes to speed-reading résumés, Proulx notes, the powers-that-hire want to see math, not language arts.

"Use metrics to back up what you've done," she says. "If you worked on a great project, tell me what you did."

"Most people," Laura Smith-Proulx adds, "just

don't back up and see what they can really do for an employer."

No to clones

► "If you use that Microsoft Word template, not only will your look-a-like résumé have tables which are hard for résumé scanning data systems to read, it will also, from a presentation standpoint, reduce you to appearing like every other candidate," Proulx stresses.

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It pays to protect planet Earth

► Secondary school students enjoying a new \$50,000 computer lab thanks to their eco-friendly efforts



► Staples Canada contributed the contest's grand prize.

Students at Dover Bay Secondary School in Nanaimo, B.C. are celebrating their achievement in environmental responsibility with the installation of a \$50,000 computer lab, the grand prize in a nationwide Staples Canada essay contest.

Last year every publicly funded elementary, middle and secondary school in Canada was invited to submit a 500-word essay for the Recycle For Education Computer Lab Contest, hosted by Staples Canada. Judges

were looking for creativity, scope, and the steps taken to make the school more eco-responsible with measurable results.

"Providing the results was important and so was the genuine school spirit when it came to energy savings, recycling, and environmental protection," says Staples Canada president, Steve Matyas. "Best practises included activities like collecting rain water, changing to lower wattage fluorescent bulbs, or plant-

ing a garden to grow food for cafeteria meals.

In addition to Dover Bay, the four other finalists were: W.C. Miller Collegiate in Altona, Manitoba (2nd place); Heritage Park Secondary, Mission, B.C. (3rd place); L'école secondaire

Gisèle-Lalonde, Orleans, Ontario (4th place); L'école secondaire Cardinal-Roy, Quebec City, Quebec (5th place).

"It was inspiring to read all the essays and learn what young people are doing to protect the environment," continued Matyas.

"To have people as young as six years old (and potentially younger) think positively about protecting our earth is such a special quality to have – and we are thrilled to recognize this act of hard work."

Dover Bay claimed the grand prize computer lab for such initiatives as starting an environment club, performing a waste vs. recycling audit, and participating in environmental competitions.

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More sports



Halifax Mooseheads forward Gabriel Desjardins has been named the team's winner of the QMJHL's scholastic player of the month award for January. Desjardins attends Prince Andrew High School. Halifax's Liam O'Brien won the award for the Rimouski Oceanic.

Nova Scotians in fight for playoffs

- Smith-Dacey's rink currently in three-way tie for fourth spot at Scotties
- Saskatchewan's Holland rink is only unbeaten team with 7-0 record



► Nova Scotia skip Heather Smith-Dacey, left, and third Danielle Parsons smile during their match against Manitoba in the morning draw yesterday.

Amber Holland was sitting on a locker-room floor eating a sandwich between draws at last year's Scotties Tournament of Hearts and thought, "This doesn't feel right."

After going 6-5 and finishing out of the playoffs last year in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., Holland felt she and her teammates had to manage their schedule better at the Scotties.

So Holland enlisted the help of her sister, Tara, who has rented a house in Charlottetown. She cooks meals there and ferries the food to the Saskatchewan team

at the Civic Centre when they have back-to-back draws.

"It's like, 'OK, I'm at a Scotties, I'm sitting on the floor of a smelly hockey locker-room eating a sub,'" Holland recalled from last year. "It was one of those things, 'Oh, this doesn't feel right where we need to be.'"

Victories over the Northwest Territories and Ontario by scores of 9-7 and 8-5, respectively, put the Kronau Curling Club rink alone atop the standings yesterday at 7-0.

Nova Scotia's Heather Smith-Dacey and Canada's

Jennifer Jones both won yesterday morning at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts to stay in the playoff hunt.

Jones, the defending champion at the Canadian curling championships, bounced back from a loss to P.E.I.'s Suzanne Birt on Monday evening to thrash B.C.'s Kelly Scott 10-2.

Smith-Dacey trailed Manitoba's Cathy Overton-Clapham by three halfway through their morning match, but the Nova Scotians pulled out an 8-7 win in an extra end.

The Mayflower rink then

lost to Birt later in the day.

A logjam for fourth at 4-3 includes Smith-Dacey, Birt and Alberta's Shannon Kleibrink.

The top four teams at the conclusion of the preliminary round tomorrow advance to the Page playoffs. Ties for fourth will be solved by tiebreaker games.

Rachel Homan's Ottawa team fell 8-5 to Saskatchewan for its first loss of the tournament. But Homan bounced back with a quick 8-1 victory over New Brunswick's Andrea Kelly later in the night to sit 6-1. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Sea Dogs show Herd why they're top-ranked

The Saint John Sea Dogs' pursuit of QMJHL history continued to come at the expense of the Halifax Mooseheads last night.

The nationally top-ranked Sea Dogs, who potentially could break single-season records for wins and points, wrapped up their season series with the Herd a perfect eight-for-eight with a 4-1 win in New Brunswick.

The Sea Dogs won their 14th straight game while the Mooseheads lost for the seventh time in eight outings.

"It's a terrific team," said Mooseheads head coach Bobby Smith. "They've been No. 1 in the rankings since quite early in the season for a reason and they have high-end players who are dangerous all the time."

Mooseheads rookie goalie Anthony Terenzio faced a barrage of 37 shots and stopped 33. Matthew Boudreau scored Halifax's lone goal in the third period with the Mooseheads trailing 3-0.

"It was not a game where you throw up your hands at the end of it and think you've got to start over," Smith said. "We played well, and give them credit, they're the No. 1 team in the country."

The Sea Dogs, 49-5-1-2 for 101 points with 11 games remaining, need 58 wins and 122 points to match QMJHL records set in the 1970s.

The Mooseheads, 15th overall at 18-38-1-2, visit the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles on Saturday.

● MATTHEW WUEST



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Owner's jibe no problem: Jeter

Derek Jeter laughed off Hank Steinbrenner's assertion that some New York Yankees were "too busy building mansions" after winning the 2009 World Series.

The Yankees captain was building a large multi-million-dollar home in Tampa last year when New York lost to Texas in the AL championship series after fading in the second half of the season and winding up with the AL wild card.

Steinbrenner, the Yankees co-chairman, made the remark Monday in saying his team lacked hunger last year.

"I understand most of it," Jeter said before yesterday's spring training workout. "The house, I didn't understand. That's a first. That's funny, I think. I'm not moving, so we won't be talking about this again."

Jeter often smiled and laughed during an 11-minute session with reporters. He pointed out, with a smile, that Steinbrenner used the plural "mansions" and that his name was not specially mentioned.

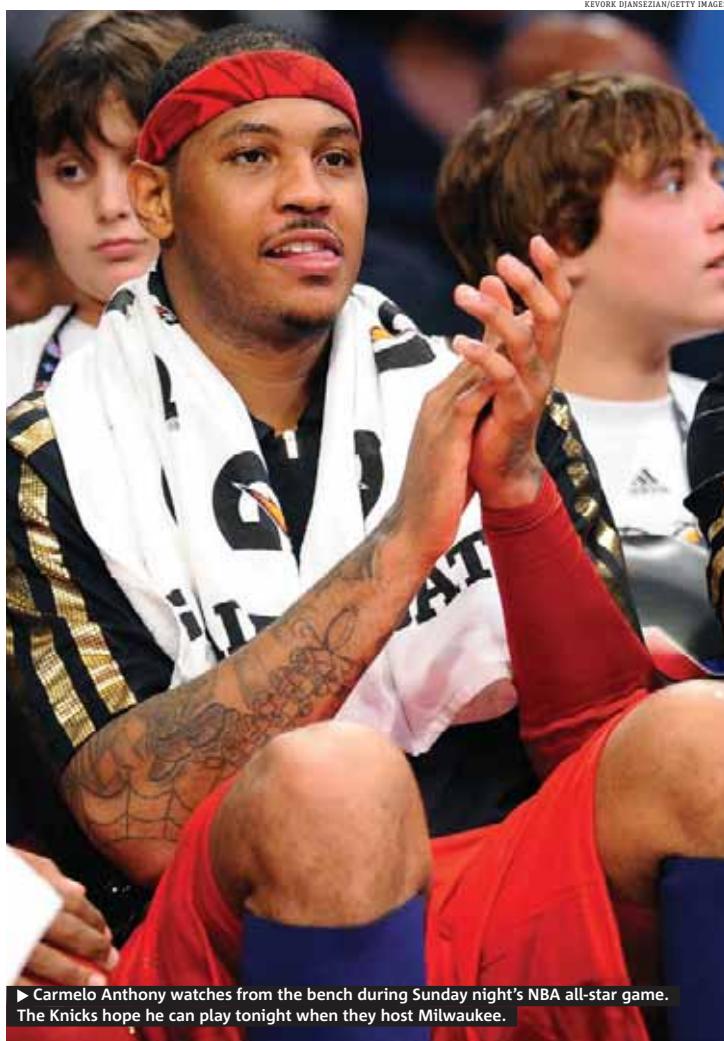
The shortstop said no further explanation was needed from the oldest son of George Steinbrenner, the Yankees owner who died last July.

"Hopefully this is the last time we have to discuss last season," Jeter said.

Steinbrenner said later yesterday his comments were not directed at Jeter.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Knicks have high hopes after trade



► Carmelo Anthony watches from the bench during Sunday night's NBA all-star game. The Knicks hope he can play tonight when they host Milwaukee.

REVORK DJANSEZIAN/GETTY IMAGES

● 'Now we have two guys in our stable,' says coach Mike D'Antoni

The New York Knicks were searching for a second superstar when Carmelo Anthony became available.

The price was high, but they're certain he's worth it.

"When you go out hunting, would you rather have a bigger gun or a little gun?" coach Mike D'Antoni said. "We got a bigger gun."

The Knicks completed a three-team, 13-player trade with the Denver Nuggets for Anthony last night. The Minnesota Timberwolves also were involved in the trade, which was agreed to Monday but couldn't be finalized until Anthony signed his \$65-million US, three-year contract extension with the Nuggets.

Anthony joins Amare Stoudemire in the front-court, giving the Knicks the potent duo they hoped they could assemble last summer in free agency.

"We liked the way our team played this year and I looked at it and I thought we had one piece that was at the high level of the league. We always wanted two pieces, at least," team president Donnie Walsh said.

Stoudemire said the Knicks will be more dangerous with Anthony bringing his 25.2 points per game to join his 26.1 average.

"Every team needs a 1,

'It's what he wants. It's what I wanted, to come to New York and play on the big stage.'

KNICKS FORWARD AMARE STOUDEMIRE ON CARMELO ANTHONY

1A punch," Stoudemire said. "And so with the ways that we both can score ... we're very versatile, so it's hard to guard us."

Stoudemire said he had "no doubt" the all-star forwards and longtime friends could play together.

The Knicks haven't made the playoffs since 2004, but sit sixth in the Eastern Conference.

The Knicks also got guards Chauncey Billups and Anthony Carter and forwards Renaldo Balkman and Shelden Williams from Denver. New York dealt forwards Wilson Chandler and Danilo Gallinari, guard Raymond Felton, and centre Timofey Mozgov to the Nuggets.

New York also shipped centres Eddy Curry and Anthony Randolph to Minnesota for forward Corey Brewer.

Denver acquired centre Kosta Koufos from Minnesota, plus New York's first-round draft pick in 2014, second-round picks in 2012 and 2013, and cash. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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N.S. boxers podium bound

Nova Scotia's boxers have guaranteed the province two more medals at the Canada Winter Games.

North Preston's Jason Downey and Sackville's Taylor Gordon will win at least a bronze after advancing to the semifinals with quarter-final victories last night at the Halifax Forum.

Downey defeated Jace Lundy of Medicine Hat, Alta., in the 52-kilogram class, while Gordon took down Newfoundland and Labrador's Jeffrey Cuff in the 64-kilogram category for his second win of the

week.

Medals are guaranteed because the two semifinalists who do not advance to the gold-medal bout are each awarded bronze.

Bedford's Brandon Halef fell short in his 60-kilogram affair with Sean McIntosh of Mission, B.C., while Brandon Osborne of Porters Lake lost to Quebec's Veton Arifi in the 75-kilogram class.

Nova Scotia has won two medals — gold and bronze — so far at the Games, both in artistic gymnastics.

• MATTHEW WUEST



► Jason Downey

Camaraderie in a solitary sport



► Ontario's Jordan Sequillion competes in the female recurve event at Sackville High School yesterday.

► Tricked-out bow costs about \$1,300 ► Archer shoots 60 arrows

JENNIFER TAPLIN
@METRONEWS.CA

Archery looks like a solitary sport — just the archer, a bow, arrows and a target.

But Nicole Poirier, from Coldbrook, said she interacts quite a bit with her competitors.

"It's not really a huge team sport but you can always talk to people and they're willing to give you tips. They're always nice," said Poirier, who placed seventh in the recurve qualification round at Sackville High School yesterday.

"I shot all right. There were some fliers but that re-

ally can't be helped."

There are two categories in archery (for men and women, individuals, and teams) and they relate to the bows the archers use. Compound bows take a lot of the work out of shooting, while recurve bows are like the ones you see in the movies, explained Poirier.

She was introduced to the sport seven years ago by a friend. It's her first and will be her only Canada Games because at 20 she's reaching the high end of the age limit.

"It's unfortunately the last, but I'm enjoying it," she said.

More Games

Yesterday's standouts



SARAH ROBICHAUD

Women's hockey

The Weymouth native scored in Nova Scotia's 3-2 heartbreaker to Manitoba. She has two goals and three assists in three games. Nova Scotia is 1-2.



KITA MCRORY

Snowboarding

The Dartmouth native finished sixth in parallel giant slalom after posting the fourth-best preliminary time and losing in the quarter-finals.



ZACK FRANCIS

Snowboarding

Francis, of Truro, was the top-finishing Nova Scotia male in parallel giant slalom, placing eighth.



TIA DOLLIVER

Figure skating

Dartmouth's Dolliver, a silver-medallist at the 2007 Games, is second after the elements portion of the Special Olympics Level III female singles competition.

Correction on figure skating medals

Stewart finished second behind gold-medalist Alyssa Chapman of P.E.I., the only other competitor in the event.

Only one medal is awarded in two-competitor events.

The Canada Winter Games host committee published the result erroneously on Monday night and incorrect information appeared in yesterday's edition of Metro.

• METRO

Medal standings

	G	S	B	Tot.		G	S	B	Tot.
PROVINCES					N.B.	0	3	3	6
QUEBEC	30	28	20	78	N.L.	0	1	4	5
ONTARIO	18	15	16	49	YUKON	3	0	1	4
B.C.	15	17	16	48	NOVA SCOTIA	1	0	1	2
ALBERTA	14	12	18	44	P.E.I.	1	0	0	1
SASK.	4	4	3	10	N.W.T.	0	0	0	0
MAN.	3	2	4	9	NUNAVUT	0	0	0	0

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Pain eased by passion for pool

► Synchronized swimmer coming back from knee injuries competed in preliminaries yesterday ► Mali Heroux-Rhymes hoping for personal bests

JENNIFER TAPLIN
@METRONEWS.CA

Two knee injuries aren't slowing down synchronized swimmer Mali Heroux-Rhymes.

The 14-year-old from Dartmouth took up synchronized swimming six years ago when her mom, a Canada Games alumna, thought it would help with her daughter's shyness.

"Ever since I've just really liked it," Heroux-Rhymes said.

She was on track until her left kneecap was dislocated at a dance class in August 2009.

"I guess my muscles were pretty tired and it couldn't hold my knee in."

Then, almost to the day a year later, the same knee dislocated again — it hap-

Family business



Athletics aptitude runs in this Dartmouth family.

Mali Heroux-Rhymes' mother Janet Rhymes

played volleyball for Dalhousie when it upset Calgary for the championship in 1982. She also played volleyball in the 1983 Canada Games.

► "I'm pretty competitive so I try to do better and live up to what she's done," said Heroux-Rhymes.

► But there's no pressure — especially from mom. "She's just really proud of me and I just do the best I can. I'm never worried she'll be disappointed."

pened three days prior to tryouts for Nova Scotia's Canada Games team.

"We were training at a circus camp and I was just stretching and I'm not sure how it happened," she said. "It's really painful. It's an

awkward pain, it's kind of hard to describe."

Heroux-Rhymes said she was in shock and thought her synchronized swimming ambitions were done.

But since she was ranked the fourth best swimmer in

the province, her coach managed to get her a tryout three months later.

"I was really happy, but at the same time I was upset and I knew there was a long way to go before I could get back in the water."

Luckily she didn't need surgery, but her recovery took a lot of physiotherapy and working in the water without using her legs.

But her hard work paid off — yesterday was her first day of competition at the Canada Games Centre. She's competing in three categories: Figures, duets and team.

She said she's not worried about her knee this week.

"I'm pretty confident it's going to be OK. I never really get any pain or problems with it, usually," she said.

Events to watch

Today's highlights



ALPINE SKIING

Ski Wentworth

The final runs for giant slalom are at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.



BADMINTON

Canada Games Centre

Singles and doubles action gets underway at 9 a.m.



BOXING

Halifax Forum

Nova Scotia hopes to work toward more medals with semifinals starting at 7 p.m.



CURLING (MEN'S)

Mayflower Curling Club

Nova Scotia, which fell to 1-2 yesterday with an 8-1 loss to Saskatchewan, faces Quebec today at 2:30 p.m.



HOCKEY (WOMEN'S)

Metro Centre

Nova Scotia will look to finish the preliminary round with a bang when it faces winless Yukon, 0-3.



FIGURE SKATING

St. Margaret's Centre

Fall River's Jennifer Mahoney is fifth heading into the pre-novice female singles free skate at 5:35 p.m. The male side competes at 10:15 a.m.



JUDO

Saint Mary's University

Nova Scotia has high hopes heading into the event, with individual male and female medal rounds set for 4 p.m.



SYNCHRONIZED SWIMMING

Canada Games Centre

Preliminary events will be held in duet at 9:25 a.m. and team at 6:25 p.m.



TABLE TENNIS

Citadel High School

Doubles and singles action runs throughout the day starting at 9 a.m.



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5 drive

By comparison

Ford Taurus

Base price: \$29,600
Sharp looks with focus on comfort. SHO model delivers lively performance.



Toyota Avalon

Base price: \$42,600
Camry-based premium four-door that strives for Lexus-like fit and finish.



Buick LaCrosse

Base price: \$33,200
Stylish, FWD/AWD sedan with thrifty four-cylinder or optional 280-hp V6.



WHEELBASE MEDIA

More visibility

The slope of the 2011 Chrysler 300's windshield has been tilted back by 7.5 centimetres at the top, and the thickness of the door pillars has been reduced.

These changes, Chrysler claims, have increased outward visibility by 15 per cent. Other tweaks for 2011 include an integrated rear-deck spoiler, twin oval-shaped exhaust tips and a set of fast-acting and very bright light-emitting diode (LED) taillights.

Changes to the front

While the outside of the 300 retains the same basic shape as last year's model, the car has been treated to a new front end, including projector-style headlights and a simplified grille that actually appears less distinctive.

For any prospective customers who prefer the original egg-crate design, Chrysler can supply it or an optional mesh-style "Bentley" insert for that custom look.

Engine

The 300's specs now include a brand new 292-horsepower 3.6-litre V6 base engine that replaces the outgoing and weak-by-comparison 250-horse 3.5-litre V6 engine.

For best thrust, Chrysler's 5.7-litre "Hemi" V8 returns for 2011 with 363 horsepower and the ability to run on only four of its eight cylinders under light load conditions, which saves a bit of fuel.



► Chrysler has discovered that the details really do matter and has concentrated on sculpting rather than renovating. This 300 C (V8) is particularly elegant in black.

Chrysler's back into the luxury game



MALCOLM GUNN
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA
WHEELBASE MEDIA

Considering what has been going on at Chrysler for the last year or so, you can forgive the delayed introduction of the big and bold 300 sedan that was officially unveiled in early January at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit.

Since the automaker's takeover by Italy's Fiat organization, the designers

and product planners now toiling for the reorganized Chrysler Group LLC have been busily reshaping, reinventing or rebranding just about every model in the company's lineup. And, well, that takes time.

Chrysler's flurry of activity sparked plenty of interest in Detroit, but what's all the hype about? The 300 doesn't look all that different from the 2010 model, does it?

As with the rest of the

Chrysler 300

What you should know about the 2011 Chrysler 300:

- Type: Four-door, rear-/all-wheel-drive full-size sedan.
- Engine (hp): 3.6-litre DOHC V6 (292); 5.7-litre OHV V8 (363).
- Transmission: Five-speed

Chrysler line, the big sedan has been drastically upgrad-

ed under the hood.

For a base price of \$34,400, which is unchanged from the 2010 300 (including destination costs), you can get the base Touring model. Of course there are numerous extra-cost items available that could boost the 300 C's base price well above the \$45,000 threshold.

That's true luxury-car territory where the new 300 now really and truly belongs.

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That's a lot of horsepower

► The last-generation Buick Regal delivered plenty of sauce

SECOND GEAR

 JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

The Regal has long been the "sporty" model in Buick's lineup — and a last-generation model actually put down some pretty respectable numbers in the affordable sporty-sedan marketplace during its lifespan.

Available from 1997 to 2004, the last-gen Regal (now replaced by the new-for-2011 Regal), got a standard 3.8-litre V6 or a supercharged variant thereof, generating 200 or 240 horsepower.

The GM '3800' V6 is a simple, relatively efficient

What's the 4-1-1?

- Model: 1997 to 2004 Buick Regal
- Vehicle Type: Sedan
- Approximate used price range: \$1,000 to \$8,000

and relatively bulletproof engine — meaning it can be expected to perform without issue for years.

All Regal models got a four-speed automatic transmission and drove the front wheels.

For an affordable car, the last-gen Regal delivered plenty of sauce.

Shoppers should note that the Regal "GS" got the supercharged engine, which will provide grin-inducing acceleration and make quick work of most Camrys and Accords at stop lights — though the



► 2002 Buick Regal

up-level engine will consume more fuel and cost more to insure.

The Regal LS with the standard engine is a more modest choice for some.

This five-seat sedan boasted features like automatic climate control, heated power seats, a sun-

roof, power accessories and an available "Monsoon" premium audio system.

What Owners Like

Performance and fuel mileage with either engine are typically highly-rated Regal attributes, as are the vehicle's looks,

comfort levels and overall level of classiness.

What Owners Hate

Some cheap interior trimming and premature wear of some of Regal's interior surfaces are common gripes. Some owners wish for 'tighter' handling to match the engine performance, too.

Common Issues:

Though robust, the GM 3800 engine line was known for a short list of issues — including coolant leak in the intake system and bad manifold gaskets.

A GM-trained mechanic should be comfortable checking for these issues.

Wiring and sensor related issues may also cause driveability issues evidenced by sporadic power delivery, a rough idle or uneven acceleration.

Note that the majority of these issues are typically sensor related and not mechanical in nature.

Have the machine you're considering 'scanned' for any check-engine lights or trouble codes, which could indicate a problem.

If visiting a mechanic's shop ahead of your purchase, request an inspection for coolant, oil or transmission fluid leaks beneath the car, too.

The Verdict

A healthy and well-maintained used Regal should prove an affordable, comfortable, sporty and easy-to-maintain sedan.

The available supercharged engine in the Regal GS will also help connect with modern-day muscle-sedan enthusiasts, too.

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Wise customers read the fine print: * •†† \$ The Breath-taking Year. Event offers are limited time offers which apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased from participating dealers on or after January 6, 2011. Retailer order date may be necessary. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. See participating retailer for complete details and conditions. \$24,995 Purchase Price applies to 2011 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT V-8 4WD AGR only and includes \$8750 Consumer Cash Discount. See participating retailer for complete details. Pricing excludes freight (\$1,400), license, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other dealer retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order date before tax. Amounts vary by vehicle. See your retailer for complete details. *Consumer Cash Discounts are offered on most new 2010 and select 2011 vehicles and are manufacturer-to-retailer incentives which are deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Amounts vary by vehicle. See your retailer for complete details. **Grand Caravan Cavo and Ram Chassis Cab® vehicles are available at participating dealerships to qualified retail customers on most new 2010 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Ram models (except Grand Caravan Cavo and Ram Chassis Cab). Vehicles are financed over a term of up to 96 months and the pre-determined residual balance at the end of the contract. All contracts end with a final payment of \$1989 return fee and excess wear, tear, mileage and similar charges). financing the remaining balance for the rest of the amortization period at their current rate or paying the initial balance in full. Some restrictions apply. Customer Choice Financing offers are TD Offers. Example: 2011 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT V-8 4WD AGR with a Purchase Price of \$24,995 financed at 2.99% APR over 60 months with payment authorized over 67 months equals \$201 bi-weekly payments of \$134 and one final payment of \$1,026 for a cost of borrowing of \$288 and a total obligation of \$27,676.06. Freight (\$1,400), taxes, license, insurance, registration, excess mileage and wear and tear charges, any dealer retailer administration fees and other applicable fees and taxes are not included. See your retailer for details. The Best Buy logo is registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC. Customer Choice Financing is a trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.

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If you're rooting for Chrysler, you have to be thrilled that Sergio Marchionne is heading up the automaker, as well as its parent company, Fiat.

Not only has Marchionne successfully orchestrated a turnaround

at Fiat, and is making great headway on Chrysler, he's also quirky. What a bonus!

And to make sure everyone understands he is cut from a different cloth, he dresses the part. No white shirt, tie and business suit for Marchionne; wherever he goes you find him sporting a nice black sweater and a nice pair of black slacks.

The clothes match his public persona, which I would call "laid back intense."

While always calm, confident and clear speaking in public forums, you get the impression that when released from the burden of appearing tactful, like when in private discourse with colleagues, he might be even more clear speaking, as in, not mincing words at all.

He's rumoured to be temperamental and impatient on occasion with certain "not with the program" co-workers.

But other co-workers have nothing but praise and admiration for him, including fellow "half-Canadians" Ralph Gilles.

Gilles is the CEO for the entire Dodge brand, as well as Chrysler's design chief.

Soon after he was born in New York, his family moved to Montreal where he lived until being accepted by Detroit's College for Creative Studies.

The Italian-born Marchionne immigrated to Toronto with his parents when he was 14. He went on to complete undergraduate studies at the University of Toronto, an MBA at the University of Windsor, and a law degree from York University's Osgoode Hall.

Marchionne is well known for his prodigious work load, often logging 14-to-18-hour days, seven days a week.

Commenting on this output, Gilles once remarked, "Sergio invented an eighth working day."

Others have noted that Marchionne seems only to sleep when he is jetting between Detroit and his "other" job in Italy, which is overseeing Fiat, and its illustrious stable of marques (Ferrari, Maserati, Alfa Romeo, Lancia, etc.).

Auto Pilot

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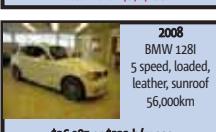
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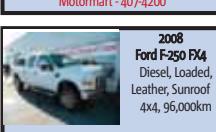
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Events

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479-2257

Dartmouth Minor Football Association
Spring Football - Varsity & Jr. Varsity Registration, Saturday March 5th from 12 pm - 2 pm, Cole Harbour Place - Harbour Room - 51 Forest Hills Parkway, Dartmouth. DMFA provides a quality tackle football program in Dartmouth and surrounding areas. We proudly offer teams for players aged 7 to 20 and boast multiple championships. For further information please check out our website www.dartmouthdestroyers.ca.

Spiritual

Pilgrimage to the 3 major shrines in Quebec, Ste. Anne de Beaupre, Notre-Dame-du-Cap and St. Joseph. From June 18-25 at a cost of \$655.00 includes transportation, motels, and 11 meals. Downpayment of \$125.00 by March 18th and the remainder May 18th. For info contact Juanita Bates at 902-466-0625 or Michael Shaw at 902-454-6074.

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Crossword

Across

1 Writer Kingsley
5 Hot tub
8 Adam and Eve's son
12 Dog owner's chore
13 Work unit
14 Burning heap
15 High score in darts
17 Ogler's look
18 Apportion
19 Kitchen rack fillers
21 "Memory" musical
24 Greek vowel
25 Hoist
28 Beams of light
30 Agree silently
33 — Khan
34 "Likewise"
35 Rotation duration
36 Thither
37 Fine
38 Information unit
39 "—Kapital"
41 Christmas refrain
43 Father Time's prop
46 Festive parties
50 Exile isle
51 "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" lifeline chart
54 Gridiron terminus
55 Bikini half
56 Great Lake
57 Shrek is one
58 Stitch
59 Timetable, for short

Down

"Mamma Mia" group
2 Manhandle
3 "— do for now"
4 Cheap merchandise



Today's horoscope



For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Aries March 21-April 20 As of today, you will be back in command and eager to make up for lost time. But don't be so eager that you neglect to use your brain. Energy can take you only so far.

Taurus April 21-May 20 If you say the wrong thing today there is a real possibility that you will make an enemy of someone who has the power to cause you serious trouble. You are entitled to your opinions, but don't be so blunt!

Gemini May 22-June 21 If you want to move up in the world, start thinking about how you can accomplish it. Don't limit your thinking to past experiences, because you can create new experiences.

Cancer June 22-July 22 Mars, planet of energy, moves into one of the best areas of your chart today, so don't hold back. Be active, be ambitious and be adventurous. All things are possible, but you've got to believe in yourself.

Leo July 23-Aug. 23 Make sure you get paid the going rate for whatever task it is you are required to do today. Others will sell you short, but only if you let your guard down.

Virgo Aug. 24-Sept. 22 Now that Mars is moving into your opposite sign of Pisces, you must be careful how you relate to people in your personal life and at work. Try not to be too aggressive or they will be even more aggressive in return.

Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Even if you are the kind of Libra who does not much like crowds, you'll want to be out and mixing with people today. New social contacts could soon be business contacts, too.

Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Mars, your co-ruler, moves into the most decisive and dynamic area of your chart today. You will be even more ambitious and assertive than usual.

Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 You must not let your emotions get the better of you. When dealing with family and friends resist the temptation to lay down the law because it will only make matters worse. Find gentle ways to persuade them.

Sudoku

8					6	2	3
	1				7	5	8
9		3				6	
			2			5	3
			7			6	
5	3		8				
7				4		5	
4	5		6			1	
6	9	1				2	

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ►



5	4	8	7	1	6	3	2	9
6	7	9	3	5	2	4	8	1
1	3	2	9	8	4	5	6	7
3	1	6	8	2	9	7	5	4
8	9	5	1	4	7	6	3	2
7	2	4	5	6	3	9	1	8
2	5	7	6	9	8	1	4	3
4	6	3	2	7	1	8	9	5
9	8	1	4	3	5	2	7	6

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

To my bubbly brister!! You are the love of my life and always will be! Thank you for being perfect in absolutely every way! Ps, I have a big surprise for you!
LOVE, JOEY

My Beautiful Brigitte. I want to be the run in your pantyhose, but just know that I will never run out on you. With never ending love, Your Man of the Month, JF XOX

Stupid Grin, I sometimes can not believe one kiss three years ago would have changed my life. I loved you three years ago but Im so in love with you now and Im so glad that kiss happened. Thank you for being in my life I enjoy every minute we have together. LOVE P.S

Nate, Good luck on your studies. I'll always be here supporting and loving you. Yours always, EMILY



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Caption contest



MARK HUMPHREY/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

You write it!

WIN! Write a funny caption for the image to the right and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.



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